

# Achieving Sustainable Prosperity

## 18th Annual Rural Development Conference

**April 10-11, 2013**

Cookeville, Tennessee

[Click here for Agenda & Hotel Information](#)

***Click Here to Register***

For questions about the conference, contact USDA Rural Development  
615-783-1300 or [ra.tnrddirector@tn.usda.gov](mailto:ra.tnrddirector@tn.usda.gov)

**Featuring**  
(click names for more info)



**Dr. Jared Bingham**  
TN Rural Education Assoc.



**Mimi Bliss**  
Bliss Communications



**Lt. Gen. (Ret.) John Castellaw**  
Crockett Policy Institute



**Ed McMahon**  
Urban Land Institute



**Deborah Slaton-Temple**  
alt. Consulting



**Dr. Robert Smith**  
Corporate Consultant



**Timothy Tidwell**  
Tennessee Valley Authority



**Sharon Yeago**  
Farmers Market Coalition

### Workshops include

- Secrets of Successful Communities
- The Keys to Sustainable Tourism
- The Role of News Media in Economic Development
- Sharpening Your Leadership Contributions
- Making My Leadership Sustainable
- Bridging the Gap Between Business and Students
- Keeping it Local
- *Providing Businesses With the Right Tools to Grow*
- Community Preparedness and Industrial Site Selection
- *How Has the Industrial Site Selection Model Changed*
- Sustainable Energy and National Security
- *Promoting Job Growth in the Sustainable Energy Sector*
- Secrets of Successful Networking:
- *Collect Business Opportunities, Not Business Cards*



**Barb Neligan**  
Motivational Humorist  
Luncheon Speaker



Committed to the future of rural communities.



### What local leaders say about the conference:

“The plenary and lunch speakers were comparable to any national conference I have attended, and **exceeded most of them.**”

“Outstanding conference... Always worth the time spent, excellent speakers and **truly relevant workshops!**”

“**The networking is great,** and I appreciate all that Rural Development does to help the communities. Please keep it up.”

“**Better and better.** I have been coming to this conference for the past six years and all have been good, but this one sticks out as the best.”

“Hard to single out one workshop as the best...all the sessions I attended were **just outstanding.**”